

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1-77 (canceled)

78. (New) A process for the isolation of montelukast acid in solid form which comprises:

- (a) stirring toluene or ethyl acetate solution containing montelukast acid;
- (b) filtering the resulting solid for recovering wet cake; and
- (c) drying the wet cake under vacuum to obtain montelukast acid in solid form having a purity of  $\geq 99\%$ .

79. (New) The process of claim 78, wherein said montelukast acid in solid form is a light yellow solid having a melting range of 148-150 °C.

80. (New) A process for preparation of montelukast sodium in amorphous form comprising:

- (a) dissolving solid montelukast acid in methanol in presence of sodium hydroxide;
- (b) removing methanol under vacuum to obtain a solid residue;
- (c) triturating the solid residue with n-heptane;
- (d) filtering the resulting solid for recovering a wet cake; and
- (e) drying the wet cake under pressure to obtain montelukast sodium in amorphous form.

81. (New) Solid montelukast acid that is a light yellow solid having a melting point ranging from 148-150 °C, wherein the solid montelukast acid is characterized by  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ),  $\delta$  (ppm) = 0.40-0.56 (bd, 4H, cyclopropyl H); 1.58 (s, 3H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ); 1.59 (s, 3H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ); 2.14-2.63 (m, 6H, S-- $\text{CH}_2$ - $\text{C}_3\text{H}_4$ , and - $\text{CH}_2$ - $\text{CO}_2\text{H}$ , S-CH- $\text{CH}_2$ - $\text{CH}_2$ ); 2.84-2.94 (m, 1H, S-CH- $\text{CH}_2$ - $\text{CH}_2$ ); 3.11-3.21 (m, 1H, S-CH- $\text{CH}_2$ - $\text{CH}_2$ ); 3.96-4.01 (t, 1H, S- $\text{CH}_2$ - $\text{CH}_2$ - $\text{CH}_2$ ); 7.07-8.05 (m, 15H, aromatic H).